



HR0635

LRB098 14496 MST 49265 r

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2 WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of
3 Representatives are pleased to congratulate Bishop Willie
4 James Chambliss, founder and Pastor of the Miracle Revival
5 Center Church of God in Christ in Maywood on the occasion of
6 his retirement; and

7 WHEREAS, Bishop Chambliss founded the Miracle Revival
8 Center Church on Saint Charles Road in Maywood on May 11, 1969;
9 the church's innovative approach to ministry, tent revivals,
10 vacation bible school, and a string of dynamic speakers
11 prompted unanticipated growth; after the original location on
12 Saint Charles Road was no longer adequate, the church spent
13 time located on West Madison in Bellwood and a second location
14 on Saint Charles in Maywood; and

15 WHEREAS, Bishop Chambliss also served as First
16 Administrative Assistant during his early days as Pastor; he
17 quickly became respected as a true leader and a man of honor
18 and integrity; on February 2, 1985 he accepted his calling into
19 the Office of Bishop and on February 29, 1996 he was installed
20 as the Jurisdictional Bishop of the Illinois Midwest
21 Ecclesiastical Jurisdiction in the Church of God in Christ; he
22 oversees 12 churches across 3 mid-western states, with the
23 majority located in Illinois; and

1 WHEREAS, The Miracle Revival Center has advanced a great
2 deal since its founding by Bishop Chambliss; the ministry's
3 current home, constructed in 1991, is a 1,200 seat
4 state-of-the-art facility that houses an audio and video
5 center, a community child-care center, bookstore, and prayer
6 tower; and

7 WHEREAS, In 1994, Governor Jim Edgar proclaimed September
8 16, 1994 to be Miracle Revival Center Day throughout the State
9 of Illinois in honor of the ministry's 25th year anniversary
10 and service to the community; and

11 WHEREAS, Today the ministry strives to address a myriad of
12 complex social issues; Bishop Chambliss has established a
13 non-profit organization, the West Suburban Neighborhood
14 Development Corporation, to meet the social services and
15 economic development needs of the community; it serves as a
16 delivery system through which grant funding and community
17 economic development projects are conducted; the Miracle
18 Revival Center Food & Pantry Depository, the Community Juvenile
19 Justice Education Project, the Maywood Health & Wellness Fair,
20 and the Community Youth Residential Center are all programs
21 under the West Suburban Neighborhood Development Corporation
22 dedicated to helping those in the community; and

1 WHEREAS, Bishop Chambliss was born to Willie J. Chambliss,
2 Sr. and Lucille Chambliss on February 6, 1929 in Macon,
3 Georgia; he has been married to Mother Irene Chambliss since
4 1959 and together they have 5 children, 12 grandchildren, and 5
5 great-grandchildren; he studied at the Moody Bible Institute
6 and the C.H. Mason-William Roberts Bible Institute; therefore,
7 be it

8 RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE
9 NINETY-EIGHTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that
10 we congratulate Bishop Willie James Chambliss on his retirement
11 as Pastor from the Miracle Revival Center Church of God in
12 Christ, thank him for his commitment to his community, and wish
13 him the best in all his future endeavors; and be it further

14 RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be
15 presented to Bishop Chambliss as an expression of our esteem
16 and respect.